

**FREDERICKSBURG
RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of September 17, 2009**

The September meeting of the Fredericksburg Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Brian Baker, Bob Carter, Tim Duffy, George Foster, Ken Kroko, Barbara Miller- Richards (arrived late), George Solley, and Susan Tyler. Also in attendance: Robert Antozzi and Patricia Sparks. Absent: Commissioner Charles McDaniel.

The Commissioners welcomed Mr. Tim Duffy to the Recreation Commission.

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of July 16, 2009 were unanimously approved.
- II. **Public Comment:** None.
- III. **Communications from the Director:** The Commissioners reviewed the following reports:
 - A. Financial Report - August 2009
 - B. Sports Notes July - September 2009
 - C. Leisure Report September - October 2009
 - D. Follow-up Report September 17, 2009
 - E. Ltr. from Clerk of Council to Mr. Timothy Duffy
 - F. Ltr. from Red Cross to Director
 - G. Updated Commission List
 - H. Pool Attendance Report – The Commissioners discussed approaching the Sunshine Lady Foundation in reference to an annual endowment or an annual commitment for financial support for the City pool. The Commissioners also discussed what would be the best way to show appreciation to Ms. Doris Buffett for her financial support for the pool. Commissioner Baker tabled the discussion until the October meeting.
- IV. **Noteworthy Dates:** The Commissioners reviewed upcoming Parks and Recreation programs.
- V. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Pathways** – Dr. Antozzi reported that the required environmental/administrative documents have been submitted to the Federal Government. Currently, the City is working on the easements for the VCR Trail. The construction is scheduled to begin in spring of 2010. Dr.

Antozzi reported that the Heritage Trail design is almost completed. Both trails are scheduled for completion by the end of 2010.

- B. Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation Partnership** – Commissioner Baker reported that he spoke with Patricia Wolfrey and she would like to invite the Recreation Commissioners to the September 22, 2009 City Council Meeting for the first reading of the Agreement between the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation and the City. The second reading of the Agreement will be Tuesday, October 13, 2009. Commissioner Baker reported that an Advisory Council will be developed consisting of Foundation members, a Sports Supervisor (Fredericksburg Parks and Recreation), a school member and local sheriff and city police. The Commissioners also agreed that a representative from the Recreation Commission should also be a member of the Advisory Council.
- C. Riverfront Park** – The interim design of the park is completed. City staff is in the final stages of identifying types of trees and vegetation needed for the park. The RFP is completed and City Council will hire someone to complete the interim work to develop the park. The Commissioners agreed that with the addition of the pathways and the Riverfront Park additional funding for park staff and operations is needed. The FY 2011 Budget will include additional appropriations for the new Pathways and Riverfront Park.
- D. City Property Initiative Report** – No additional information.
- E. Volunteer Banquet Report** – Dr. Antozzi reported that staff researched the cost and the value of having the traditional banquet compared to reducing it to an awards reception or not having it at all. Staff strongly feels there is a value of having the traditional banquet, and it is certainly worth the investment that Parks and Recreation Department receive throughout the year. For the amount of the investment that is put forth in having the banquet, the benefits are too high to risk not having the banquet at all. Staff also made recommendations to offset the cost of the banquet by using left over invitations from previous years, and print awards (certificates) on a lesser quality of paper. The funds for plaques were appropriated in FY 2010 budget. Dr. Antozzi also stated that in having the dinner at the center the catering would be \$14.00 a plate. The Hospitality Center has agreed to \$16.00 a plate with no charge for the room. Total cost will be approximately \$5,000.00. Dr. Antozzi reported that if approved by the City Manager, revenue from two

soccer tournaments totaling \$7,000.00 would offset the cost of the banquet.

F. Sports Team Placement – Commissioner Baker reported that the committee met September 16, 2009 and had a very productive meeting. The consensus of the committee on team placement is that it is an important issue and one that they will continue to work on. Commissioner Baker stated that the concern is that all players have a reasonable and equitable opportunity to succeed.

G. Contents of Recreation Commission Agenda – The Commissioners agreed to continue using the same format. Take off agenda.

VI. New Business:

A. Pool Attendance – The Commissioners discussed the pool attendance comparison report for 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. Commissioner Miller-Richards and Commissioner Foster suggested shifting the hours and days when the pool opens on Memorial Day to allow it to remain open through Labor Day. Commissioner Foster also stated that he had received complaints on the credit card machine not working at the pool. Dr. Antozzi reported that it was a problem all summer and the issues were reported to the City's IT unit. The City Manager is aware of the computer problems incurred by pool employees.

B. Maury Stadium/Football Issue – Dr. Antozzi updated the Commissioners on the football issue that occurred in August on reserving Maury Stadium. The situation was promptly resolved once Parks and Recreation Staff were notified.

C. Trophies – Commissioner Foster reported that he had been approached by parents in reference to the trophies that are given to each child for every season of league play. The parents are running out of space to store the trophies. Suggestions were made by parents to give metals or ribbons in place of trophies. Dr. Antozzi will have a proposal for the Commission to review in October.

D. Finally Fridays - Commissioner Kroko suggested that the Commission re-evaluate Finally Friday to include the date, location, etc. Dr. Antozzi suggested that the discussion continue after the September 25th Finally Friday event in order to get a more accurate report on attendance, expenses and revenue.

- E. Kalahari Lantern** – Dr. Antozzi reported that Kalahari is going to make a very large three-dimensional lantern for First Night. Pohanka is requesting to be the “Title Sponsor” for First Night. The amount of the donation has not been determined.

VII. Commission Concerns and Topics:

Commissioner Miller-Richard complimented Wendy Stone on the report on use of alcohol at the Community Center. The report was very concise and thorough.

Commissioner Carter stated that he attended the great Dog Park dedication ceremony. The shade structure is very nice and well done. Roy Allen did a nice job of representing the Department. Commissioner Carter referenced the “Stafford Extra” section of The Free-Lance Star. Stafford Parks electronically sends their calendar to The Free-Lance Star. This is a free service. Commissioner Carter suggested that Parks and Recreation utilize this free service to promote programs. Dr. Antozzi reported that Staff would look into using this service with The Free-Lance Star.

Commissioner Foster complimented Wendy Stone on the alcohol report.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Approved by the Recreation Commission



Robert Antozzi, Director

10/19/09
Date

Next Commission Meeting Thursday, October 15, 2009.